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SRI M. KALYANASUNDRAM :—" Sir, I really welcome the proposal to set up a mill separately for the benefit of handloom weavers. But my anxiety is that they are trying to purchase an old mill. The reports are that the mill does not deserve so much price. My anxiety is that what should really go to the handloom weavers should not be taken away by profit-makers. Will the Government investigate this matter properly, and try to purchase or purchase after a thorough investigation? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, the doubts cast on the wisdom of this transaction will be taken into account, and the matter will be looked into."

Appointment of gazetted officers for the National Extension Scheme.

* 80 *Q*.—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many gazetted officers were appointed in the State for the National Extension Scheme under the Five-Year Plan; and

(*b*) whether communal representation was considered with reference to the provisions of the Constitution in respect of Scheduled Castes candidates?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) Twenty-eight.

" (*b*) The prime consideration in filling up the posts was to pick out the best men suitable for the job and men who have aptitude for social work. Further this is not direct recruitment in which communal considerations can be taken into account consistently with the maintenance of efficiency of administration as provided in the Constitution. Selection was made from among the various services."

SRI A. RATNAM :—" Social work-ல் அனுபவம் வாய்ந்தவரும் B.Sc. படித்தவரும், ஹரிஜனவகுப்பைச் சேர்ந்தவரும், 12 வருடம் ரிஜிஸ்டிராராகவும், 8 வருடம் ரேஷனிங் ஆபீஸராகவும் இருந்த ஒருவர் இதற்கு மனுப்போட்டிருந்தார். ஏன் அவருடைய மனுவானது கவனிக்கப் படவில்லை ? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" If the hon. Member is interested in a particular officer, I have to state I do not have the information with me, and I cannot say whether his name was considered, and why he was not selected."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, would you permit me to intervene? With all deference to the feelings of hon. Members, I wish to point out that intercession on behalf of particular officials, even though they may belong to particular communities, is not wise even in the interests of those officials themselves."

10-40 a.m. Sri R. V. SWAMINATHAN :—" Will it not be fair on the part of the Government to show some consideration to the various communities in the State while making appointments to gazetted posts? "

The Hon. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" I was not referring to the communal aspect. What I was referring was with regard to the particularity of the question not whether he belonged to one community or another community; the question was about an individual officer."

Sri R. V. SWAMINATHAN :—" My question has not been answered, Sir. Taking the existing conditions that prevail in the State into account, will it not be fair on the part of the Government to distribute the various appointments to the different communities although they are not compelled to adopt the Communal Government Order? "

The Hon. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" The general policy referred to by the hon. Member is kept in mind. But we cannot, on that account, do injustice to those who have a claim by seniority as well as by merit. The best that is possible is being done. Again, I wish to point out that hon. Members do desire, I am sure, discipline. Hon. Members do desire that officials should observe rules in official life. If hon. Members allow shortcircuiting through Legislative Assembly interpellations, there will be utter breakdown of discipline."

Sri A. RATNAM :—" என்னுடைய உப கேள்விக்கு அளிக்கப்பட்ட கனம் முதல் அமைச்சருடைய பதில் ஆச்சரியத்தை அளிக்கிறது. அரசியல் சட்டப் பிரகாரம் உத்தியோகங்களில் 15 சத விகிதம் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு இடம் ஒதுக்கப்பட்டு சலுகை காட்டப்படவேண்டும். பல தோழர்கள் இந்த உத்தியோகத்திற்கு மனுக்கள் போட்டிருந்தும் அவைகள் கவனிக்கப் படவில்லை. இந்தச் சட்டசபையிலுள்ள 42 ஹரிஜன எம்.எல்.எக்களும் சேர்ந்து கனம் முதல் அமைச்சருக்கு இதுபற்றி மெமோராண்டம் சமர்ப்பித்திருக்கிறார்கள். அதன் பேரில் கனம் முதல் அமைச்சர் என்ன நடவடிக்கை எடுத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார் என்பதை அறிய விரும்புகிறேன் ? "

The Hon. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, no Harijans in the Assembly is more interested in doing justice to Harijan Officials who have a rightful claim, than the Chief Minister. I can assure the hon. Members who have any doubts in the matter that they are wrong and that the Chief Minister is as much interested in the matter at least for the sake of maintaining his own credit and reputation. But, so far as the hon. Member's question is concerned, I wish to say that the Harijan Officials should also work hard and also maintain their position in public life without breakdown of discipline. If, as a matter of fact, it comes to this that the Harijan Members in the Assembly form a Committee on Public Service and a Sub-Committee with reference to the Harijan Officials, I again repeat that official life will break down."

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SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN :—" While agreeing with the Hon. the Chief Minister that discipline, integrity and efficiency should be kept in mind while selecting officials, may I know whether at least in future the Government will see that Backward Communities and Harijans are given equal share in the matter of these appointments? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" That is being done, Sir. Not only being done, it is guaranteed. It is guaranteed by definite arithmetical formula with reference to recruitment which the hon. Member has referred to. But, promotions cannot be guided by Legislative Assembly interpellations."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Is it not a fact that all the officers appointed are already Government servants and that no fresh candidates from the public are selected? "

SRI S. THINAKARASAMI THEVAR :—" May I know how many of these Gazetted Officers are directly recruited and how many of them have been selected from the departments? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Minister has already stated that there was no direct recruitment."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I have already answered, Sir, that no direct recruitment was made."

SRI A. RATNAM :—" ராஜபாளையத்திலிருந்தும், திருநெல்வேலியிலிருந்தும் தலைமை குமாஸ்தாக்கள் இந்த Gazetted Officer உத்தியோகத்தில் நியமிக்கப்பட்டார்களா? அவ்வாறு நியமிக்கப்பட்டார்கள் என்றால், அவர்களுடைய யோக்யதாம்சங்கள் என்ன? அவர்கள் எந்த வகுப்பைச் சேர்ந்தவர்கள் "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I would like to tell the hon. Member that no clerks have been promoted as Gazetted Officers."

Transfer of Prohibition work to the Police.

* 81 Q.—SRI N. GOPALA MENON (on behalf of Sri A. Appu) : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state whether the Government have taken any decision with regard to the question of transferring the entire Prohibition work to the Police?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" The Government have decided to entrust the enforcement of Prohibition throughout the State to the Police department. The necessary arrangements to be made are under consideration."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Sir, inasmuch as women are more interested in the successful enforcement of Prohibition, will the Government consider the question of entrusting the work to women Police officers who may be recruited for the work? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member may put this question when I take up question No. 83 which relates to women officers in the Prohibition Department."